

# WOOD DUST (For all Untreated Wood and Untreated Wood Products) CAUTION!

SAWING, SANDING OR MACHINING WOOD PRODUCTS CAN PRODUCE WOOD DUST WHICH CAN CAUSE A FLAMABLE OR EXPLOSIVE HAZARD.

WOOD DUST MAY CAUSE LUNG, UPPER RESPIRATORY TRACT, EYE AND SKIN IRRITATION. SOME WOOD SPECIES MAY CAUSE DERMATITIS AND/OR ALLERGIC RESPIRATORY EFFECTS. THE INTERNATIONAL AGENCY FOR RESEARCH ON CANCER (ARC) HAS CLASSIFIED WOOD DUST AS A NASAL CARCINOGEN IN HUMANS.

- Avoid dust contact with ignition source.
- Sweep or vacuum dust for recovery or disposal.
- Avoid prolonged or repeated breathing of wood dust in air.
- Avoid dust contact with skin and eyes.

FIRST AID: If inhaled, remove to fresh air. In case of contact, flush eyes and skin with water. If irritation persists, call a physician.

For additional information, see the Material Safety Data Sheet.

## NOTES:

- 1. Preventative measures and first aid instructions are not required on labels, but may be added voluntarily.
- 2. Labels must be legible and prominently displayed. There are no specific requirements for size, color, or any specific text.
- 3. This label is designed to address the requirements of the OSHA Hazard Communication Standard with respect to wood dust. You may want to consult other sources such as the American National Standards Institute for general guidance on the preparation of warnings.

TRADE NAME

Wood Dust (untreated)

**SYNONYMS** 

None

CAS. NO.

None

#### DESCRIPTION

Particles generated by any manual or mechanical cutting or abrasion process performed on wood

#### PHYSICAL DATA

Specific Gravity Variable (Dependant on wood species

and moisture content.)

Vapor DensityNot Applicable% Volatiles By VolNot ApplicableMelting PointNot ApplicableVapor PressureNot ApplicableSolubility in HO (% By Wt.)Insoluble

Evaporation Rate (Butyl Acetate=1) Not Applicable

pH Not Applicable

Appearance and Odor...... Light to dark colored granular solid. Color

and odor are dependent on the wood species

and time since dust was generated.

#### FIRE AND EXPLOSION DATA

Flash Point Not Applicable

Autoignition Temperature...... Variable (typically 400-500°F)

Special Fire Fighting procedures...... Use water to wet down wood dust to reduce

the likelihood of ignition or dispersion of dust into the air. Remove burned or wet dust to open area after fire is extinguished.

Unusual Fire and Explosion Hazard........ Wood dust is a strong to severe explosion

hazard if a dust "cloud" contacts an ignition

source.

#### HEALTH EFFECTS INFORMATION

Exposure Limit ACGIH TLV<sup>(R)</sup>

 $TWA-5.0 \text{ mg/m}^3$ ;

Exposure Limit (Cont'd)	TWA-1.0 mg/m <sup>3</sup> (certain hardwoods such as beech and oak)
	<u> </u>
<sup>1</sup> See important footnote below concerning OSHA PELs for wood dust	OSHA PEL: TWA-15.0 mg/m³ (total dust); 5.0 mg/m³ (respirable fraction)
Skin and Eye Contact	Wood dust can cause eye irritation. Various species of wood dust can elicit allergic contact dermatitis in sensitized individuals.
Ingestion	Not Applicable
Skin Absorption	Not Known to Occur
Inhalation	May cause nasal dryness, irritation and obstruction. Coughing, wheezing, and sneezing; sinusitis and prolonged colds have also been reported.
Chronic Effects	Wood dust, depending on species, may cause dermatitis in prolonged, repetitive contact; may cause respiratory sensitization and/or irritation. IARC classifies wood dust as a carcinogen to humans (Group 1). This classification is based primarily on IARC's evaluation of increased risk in the occurrence of adenocarcinomas of the nasal

In AFL-CIO v. OSHA 965 F. 2d 962 (11th Cir. 1992), the court overturned OSHA's 1989 Air Contaminates Rule, including the specific PELs for wood dust that OSHA had established at that time. THE 1989 PELs WERE: TWA-5.0 mg/m³; STEL (15 MIN.) -10.0 mg/m³ (ALL SOFT AND HARD WOODS, EXCEPT WESTERN RED CEDAR): WESTERN RED CEDAR: TWA -2.5 mg/m³.

Wood dust is now officially regulated as an organic dust under the Particulates Not Otherwise Regulated (PNOR) or Inert or Nuisance Dust categories at PELs noted under Health Effects Information section of this MSDS. However, A NUMBER OF STATES HAVE INCORPORATED PROVISIONS OF THE 1989 STANDARD ON THEIR STATE PLANS. ADDITIONALLY, OSHA HAS ANNOUNCED THAT IT MAY CITE COMPANIES UNDER THE OSH ACT GENERAL DUTY CLAUSE UNDER APPROPRIATE CIRCUMSTANCES FOR NON-COMPLIANCE WITH THE 1989 PELS.

Chronic Effects (cont'd)...... cavities and paranasal sinuses associated with

exposure to wood dust. IARC did not find sufficient evidence to associate cancers of the oropharynx, hypopharynx, lung, lymphatic and hematopoietic systems, stomach, colon or rectum with exposure to

wood dust.

## **REACTIVITY DATA**

Conditions Contributing...... Stable under normal conditions.

to Instability

Incompatibility...... Avoid contact with oxidizing agents and

drying oils. Avoid open flame. Product may

ignite at temperatures in excess of 400°F.

Hazardous Decomposition...... Thermal oxidative degradation of wood

Products

Thermal oxidative degradation of wood produces irritating and toxic fumes and gases, including CO, aldehydes and organic

acids.

Conditions Contributing to...... Not Applicable

Polymerization

### PRECAUTIONS AND SAFE HANDLING

Avoid eye contact

Avoid repeated or prolonged contact with skin. Careful bathing and clean clothes are indicated after exposure.

Avoid prolonged or repeated breathing of wood dust in the air.

Avoid contact with oxidizing agents and drying oils.

Avoid open flame

#### GENERALLY APPLICABLE CONTROL MEASURES

Ventilation: Provide adequate general and local exhaust ventilation to maintain healthful

working conditions.

Wear goggles or safety glasses. Other protective equipment such as gloves and approved dust respirators may be needed depending upon dust conditions.

# **EMERGENCY AND FIRST AID PROCEDURES**

Eyes Flush with water to remove dust particles. If irritation persists, get medical

attention.

Skin If a rash or persistent irritation or dermatitis occur, get medical advice

where applicable before returning to work where wood dust is present.

Inhalation Remove to fresh air. If persistent irritation, severe coughing, or breathing

difficulties occur, get medical advice before returning to work where wood

dust is present.

Ingestion Not Applicable.

# SPILL/LEAK CLEAN UP PROCEDURES

Sweep or vacuum spills for recovery or disposal; avoid creating dust conditions. Provide good ventilation where dust conditions may occur. Place recovered wood dust in a container for proper disposal.